

Olli Vuola

Dr. Olli Vuola is Head of Aalto Ventures Program (AVP), a strategic university-wide entrepreneurship education program at Aalto University, Finland. In five years, he has ramped up AVP from 0 to more than 20 000 event participants and to more than 2 500 individual students in its academic program.

As an entrepreneur, company executive, owner, program director, advisor, and board member, Dr. Vuola has been involved in multiple SMEs and growth companies to create new scalable business.



He has almost 20 years of leadership experience in different types of organizations as Head of AVP at Aalto University, Director of Cerntech at the European Laboratory for Particle Physics CERN, Director at TeliaSonera, a large corporation, and CEO of an SME called Neapo. He has lived and worked in various countries including Finland, France, Israel, Palestine, Switzerland, and the USA.

Dr. Vuola has been a Member of the Board or Chairman of the Board in multiple companies such as 4TS Corporation, EasyLED, Fixcel Group, HUB Logistics, Nordic Soya, and Taova, as well as in non-profit organizations such as the US-based Malta Conferences Foundation that uses science diplomacy and entrepreneurship to build cross-border collaboration in the Middle East.

Positions of trust include Member of Jury of the EY Entrepreneur of the Year EOY, Member of the Government Foresight Report group of the Finnish Prime Minister, TeliaSonera representative to the European Industrial Research Management Association EIRMA, Delegate to the CERN Finance Committee, Head of the Nordic Delegation to the ESRF Purchasing Committee, and Member of the Student Parliament of Helsinki University of Technology.

Dr. Vuola received his PhD in Management from Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales (HEC), University of Lausanne, Switzerland, in 2006, and his MSc in Electrical Engineering from Helsinki University of Technology in 1996. He has been Visiting Scholar at Georgia Institute of Technology (USA), Executive in Residence at Aalto University (Finland), and Adjunct Professor of Innovation Management and Technology Policy at Helsinki University of Technology (Finland).

His academic merits include a number of invited talks and keynotes, for example, at UC Berkeley in the USA, University of Oxford in the UK, and Yonsei Business School in Korea, as well publications in journals such as the *Research Policy*, *International Journal of Technology Management*, and *Technovation*. He has acted as a referee for the *International Journal of Technology Management*, *Journal of Technology Transfer*, *International Journal of Product Innovation Management*, *Research Policy*, and *Research Evaluation*.

Dr. Vuola is currently Vice President and Board Member of the International Council for Small Business (ICSB), having organized activities such as a VIP reception during the ICSB 2016 in New York and the Slush Global Impact Accelerator Argentina during the ICSB 2017 in Buenos Aires. He has participated in a number of events and meetings in Egypt, Finland, Italy, Korea, South Africa, UK, and USA, and hosted ICSB and USASBE delegates in Finland. He is Local Chair and Executive Chair of the 2019 ICSB World Congress to be held in Finland in 2019.

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